

[illegible]

## Abstract of Disclosure

A fuel cell assembly ("Assembly") includes a housing having an inlet and an outlet and defining at least one bypass flow channel, which is in fluid communication with the inlet. The inlet and outlet are configured to provide fluid communication to and from the housing, respectively. The Assembly further includes at least one fuel cell stack ("Stack") that is disposed within the housing and includes at least one fuel cell. The Stack defines at least one direct flow channel, which is in fluid communication with the inlet and outlet. The Assembly further includes a control system, which is configured to control an oxidant flow from the inlet to the direct and bypass flow channels. A method for controlling a thermal environment of the Stack includes apportioning an oxidant flow between the direct and bypass flow channels.

## Figures